

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's amendment filed on March 31, 2009 has been entered.

Claims 1-43 are pending.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Thomas Kelton on June 12, 2009. Applicant and/or applicant's representative have agreed to incorporate claims 10-11, 19, 29, and 43 into their independent claims and cancelled claims 10-11, 19, 29, and 43. Applicant and/or applicant's representative have also agreed for the examiner to amend the preamble of claim 13 to overcome the 101 issue. If applicant disagrees with the correction, the applicant can file in the 312 amendment to make or revise the correction without changing the scope of the invention; otherwise, the 312 amendment will not be entered.

CLAIMS:

3. Please cancel claims 10-11, 19, 29, and 43.

4. Please replace claim 1 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for providing protection against malicious code, said system comprising:

a malicious code analyzer disposed in a communication system traffic pattern between an originator of an information communication of said communication system traffic pattern and an intended recipient of said information communication to intercept said information communication and to analyze said information communication for malicious code, said malicious code analyzer being configured to be transparent to systems of said communication system;

a steering module for said information communication between a first interface and a second interface of said system, wherein said steering module provides a translate function that monitors each information communication provided to said first interface and said second interface for information communication to be provided malicious code analysis and directs at least some of said information communication to said malicious code analyzer; and

a communications throttle for determining if said information communication is to be passed by said system.

5. Please replace claim 13 as follows:

13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product having a computer readable medium having computer program logic recorded thereon, which when executed by a machine, causes the machine to perform operations for providing protection against malicious code, said computer program product comprising:

code for analyzing malicious code present in information communication traffic between an originator of an information communication of said communication traffic and an intended recipient of said information communication;

code for a steering said information communication between interfaces associated with said information communication originator and said intended recipient and providing a translate function which detours at least a portion of said information communication to said code for analyzing malicious code and which renders said code for analyzing malicious code invisible to said information communication originator and said intended recipient; and

code for throttling communications by receiving information with respect to information communication and determining if said information communication is to be passed by said interfaces.

6. Please replace claim 20 as follows:

8. (Currently Amended) A method for providing protection against malicious code, said method comprising:

intercepting packets in an information communication traffic pattern;

steering said packets between interfaces associated with an information communication originator and said intended recipient, said steering providing detouring of at least a portion of said packets to a malicious code analyzer;

analyzing said at least a portion of said packets by said malicious code analyzer before releasing said at least a portion of said packets back into said traffic pattern; and

throttling communications by receiving information with respect to said packets and determining if said packets are to be passed in said traffic pattern.

7. Please replace claim 30 as follows:

30. (Currently Amended) A system for providing protection against malicious code, said system comprising:

a steering module for directing packets between a first interface and a second interface of said system, wherein said steering module provides a translate function that monitors each packet provided to said first interface and said second interface for packets to be provided malicious code analysis and directs at least some of said packets to a malicious code analyzer;

said malicious code analyzer coupled to said steering module for receiving packets which are not addressed for receipt by said malicious code analyzer but which are directed to said malicious code analyzer by said steering module and for providing packets analyzed by said malicious code analyzer to said steering module, wherein said malicious code analyzer provides a malicious code remediation function; and

a communications throttle coupled to said steering module for receiving information with respect to packets which are not addressed for receipt by said communications throttle but which information with respect thereto is directed to said

communications throttle by said steering module and for determining if said packets are to be passed by said system.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 1-9, 12-18, 20-28, and 30-42 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Please see Interview Summary attached with this office action.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanhnga (Tanya) Truong whose telephone number is 571-272-3858.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Taghi Arani can be reached on 571-272-3787. The central fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

/Thanhnga B. Truong/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2438

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TBT

June 12, 2009